

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 227779

12
ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 /032 R

DRAFTED BY CU/EE:YRICHMOND:BJE
APPROVED BY CU/EE:YRICHMOND
EUR/SOV:ASTEFAN
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
USIA/IEU:SDEMITZ

----- 117840

R 150310Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS STATE 227779

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OEXC, UR, US

SUBJECT: CIEE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM

1. COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE (CIEE)
HAS SUBMITTED REQUEST FOR CU/EE GRANT OF DOLS 35,000 TO
SUPPORT ITS RUSSIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS FOR AMERICAN UNDER-
GRADUATES AT LENINGRAD STATE UNIVERSITY. OF AMOUNT
REQUESTED, 25,000 IS FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT,
5,000 FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PROGRAMS OF HIGH SCHOOL AND
FACULTY EXCHANGE AND TEXTBOOK DEVELOPMENT FOR US STUDENTS
OF RUSSIAN, AND 5,000 FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.

2. AS EMBASSY AND CONGEN AWARE, CIEE CONDUCTS ONLY US
NATIONWIDE PROGRAM IN USSR FOR AMERICAN UNDERGRADUATES, AND
EACH YEAR SENDS APPROXIMATELY 160 STUDENTS TO SIX-WEEK
SUMMER SEMESTER AND 30 STUDENTS EACH TO FALL AND SPRING
SEMESTER COURSES IN RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AT LENINGRAD. HIGH
PERCENTAGE OF CIEE ALUMNI ARE USING THEIR RUSSIAN LANGUAGE
ABILITY IN GRADUATE STUDY, IREX EXCHANGE PROGRAMS,
TEACHING ON COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL LEVELS, AND PROFESSIONAL
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WORK IN GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRY, LAW, AND MEDICINE. CIEE

REPRESENTS 20 AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WITH RUSSIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS WHO PAY MEMBERSHIP FEE ALTHOUGH PROGRAM IS OPEN TO ALL APPLICANTS FROM ANY U.S. COLLEGE. IN

1974/75 216 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED FROM 73 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES. CIEE HAS RECEIVED GRANTS FROM FORD FOUNDATION, LILY ENDOWMENT, AND U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION, MAINLY FOR SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT, ALTHOUGH PARTICIPANTS PAY MAJOR PORTION OF COSTS. MOST URGENT NEED NOW IS FOR SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF LOSS OF FORD GRANT, TO SUPPORT PARTICIPATION OF NEEDY STUDENTS.

3. PROGRAM IS HIGHLY REGARDED BY FORD FOUNDATION, IREX, COOPERATING UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES. CU/EE ALSO REGARDS PROGRAM AS USEFUL IN PROVIDING POOL OF RUSSIAN SPEAKERS FOR U.S. BUSINESS, SCIENCE, PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS, AND EDUCATION. IN THIS RESPECT CIEE HAS MUCH BROADER BASE THAN IREX WITH ITS MORE SCHOLARLY INTERESTS.

4. SHOULD CU/EE ADDITIONAL FUNDS BE AVAILABLE IN FY 77 WE MIGHT CONSIDER GRANT OF APPROXIMATELY DOLS 20,000 FOR SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT ONLY. WE ARE HOWEVER AWARE THAT CIEE GRANT REQUEST MUST COMPETE FOR LIMITED CU/EE FUNDS WITH SIMILAR GRANT REQUESTS FROM IREX, DIRECT UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES (SUNY/MGU). FURTHERMORE, A GRANT TO CIEE WOULD ESTABLISH PRECEDENT FOR CU FUNDING FOR U.S. UNIVERSITIES SENDING STUDENTS TO MOSCOW'S PUSHKIN INSTITUTE (OHIO STATE AND MIDDLEBURY TO DATE).

5. REQUEST EMBASSY/CONGEN COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE227779
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: YRICHMOND:BJE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760347-1101
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760957/aaaabwtr.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vandyklc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAR 2004 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <20 AUG 2004 by vandyklc>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIEE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM
TAGS: OEXC, UR, US
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006